ABSTRACT

The decorative item of the invention comprises a basis material having at its surface a hardened layer, such as a carburized layer, and, superimposed on the basis material surface, a hard coating of carbon, TiN, TiC or the like. This decorative item is excellent in scratch resistance. Further, the decorative item of the invention may have a gold alloy coating superimposed on an entire surface or part of surface of the hard coating. This decorative item can exhibit golden color or other various tones without detriment to the excellent scratch resistance to have enhanced ornamental value. The process for producing a decorative item according to the invention enables obtaining the above decorative item, for example, an exterior part of timepiece with high productivity.

The exterior part of timepiece according to the invention has a carburized layer provided at a surface of stainless steel. The carburized layer surface is polished or machined and has a Vickers hardness of 500 or greater. This exterior part of timepiece is excellent in scratch resistance without detriment to the inherent excellent corrosion resistance of stainless steel, especially austenitic stainless steel. The process for producing an exterior part of timepiece

according to the invention enables providing the above exterior part of timepiece, for example, a wristwatch band.

Another form of exterior part of timepiece according to the invention comprises a metal, the metal having at its surface a deformed layer containing a fibrous structure wherein metal crystal grains are deformed so as to be fibrous, al least the deformed layer having a hardened layer wherein a solute atom is diffused so as to form a solid solution. This exterior part of timepiece has a smooth or specular surface free of "orange peel" and is thus excellent in appearance. The process for producing another exterior part of timepiece according to the invention enables providing the above other exterior part of timepiece according to the invention.

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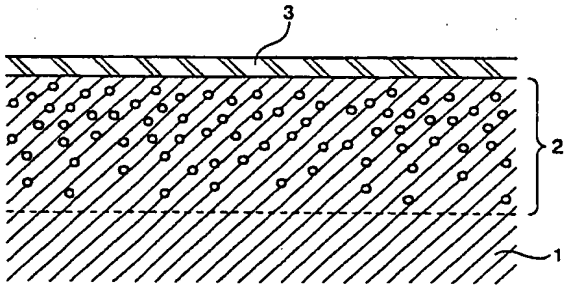
(54) Title: ORNAMENT AND METHOD FOR PREPARATION THEREOF

(54) 発明の名称: 装飾品およびその製造方法



(57) Abstract: An ornament, such as external ornamental parts of a watch, which comprises a substrate comprising stainless steel, titanium or titanium alloy and having a hardened layer comprising a solid solution of at least one type of atom selected from the group consisting of a carbon atom, a nitrogen atom and oxygen atom in the substrate and, formed on the surface of the hardened layer, a hard coating film such as TiC or TiN. The ornament has excellent resistance to scratching without detriment to the corrosion-resistant property of the substrate and can have a variety of colors such as gold, and thus is significantly valuable from an ornamental point of view.

(57) 要約:

本発明に係る時計外装部品等の装飾品は、ステンレス鋼、チタンあるいはチタン合金からなる基体が、炭素原子、窒素原子、及び酸素原子からなる群から選ばれる少なくとも１種の原子の固溶された硬化層を有し、その硬化層表面にＴｉＣ、ＴｉＮ等の硬質皮膜を形成してなるものであり、基材の有する耐食性を損なうことなく、優れた耐傷付き性を有し、しかも金色等の様々な色調を有する装飾的価値のあるものである。

WO 01/18275 A1